GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4244
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011
PREVENTION OF BEGGING
Dashmunsi Deepa

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether acute poverty is one of the reason, for men/women including children indulging in beggary;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study on the plight of beggars;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to alleviate/ eradicate the begging menace in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON)

(a) and (b) While there is no authentic data available in this regard, poverty may be one of the reasons for people indulging in beggary.

(c) and (d) No national level study has been conducted, so far.

(e) As per available information, 20 States and 2 Union Territories have anti-beggary laws. The Central Government has requested State Governments and UT Administrations to(i) effectively implement their existing laws or enact a new law in case such law is not in existence, (ii) take appropriate measures to curb beggary and rehabilitate beggars and(iii) develop a sound data base on beggary.